THE STRANGER'S CALL.

An Incident That Interested the Miner, at Homesick Diggings.

There were about two hundred men of us at Homesick Diggings, and it was the hour of noon on a summer's day when big Jim Davis came over the hill with his pack on his back and staked out a claim. He came alone, and that was why we noticed him so particularly. He seemed to fight shy of us for three or four days, and that is why we wondered if he was all right. Big Jim had got a squint at the face of every man in camp before he ventured out and became social. In a little time we found him to be a good fellow, and so we gradually came to forget our first suspicions. We were still agreed, however, that there was something queer about him. He appeared anxious and perturbed whenever a new arrival was announced, and if a party of half a dozen came along Jim would go into hiding until he had sized them up. It was as if he suspected some one was trailing him down.

There were all sorts of men in the mining camps in those days, and it was the rule to mind your own business. As long as a miner obeyed the rules and regulations laid down for the government of a camp he was looked upon as all right. What he had been in the past was nothing even to his teammate.

There was a big shanty in the center of our village which was occupied as a store, saloon, bank and general rendezvous after working hours. I was in there one afternoon just before the miners knocked off work, when a stranger quietly entered. He had come by the trail and alone, but no one had noticed him. He was a slim, light-weight man, and though clothed in rough garb you could see at once that he was not a miner. He was sunburned and unkempt, but that was to be expected out there. He was talking with the storekeeper as I entered—asking after just such a man as Big Jim Davis. His face struck me pleasantly enough, but there was a something in his gray eyes to remind you of a wounded beast, and a something in his voice to satisfy you that he would be a pitiless enemy.

He went out before I did. Where he kept himself for the next hour I never learned. The boys had knocked off, washed up and eaten supper, and about twenty of us had lounged into the store for a smoke and a talk, when the little man suddenly showed up. This, mind you, was three months after Big Jim's coming. Jim sat on a box facing the door, which was open. I happened to be looking at him, and I suddenly saw his face grow pale and his jaw drop. I looked over to the door and there stood the stranger. He had a leering sort of smile on his face, and was looking only at Big Jim. In ten seconds all conversation had ceased. We instinctively felt that the two were enemies, and that the little man had finally trailed Big Jim down.

It was fully two minutes before the stranger moved or spoke. Then he stepped forward until close to Big Jim and said:

"It has been over two years, but I've run you down at last!"

Davis looked at him as one who sees a specter, but made no reply.

"You have skulked and dodged like a coward!" continued the little man in the same quiet voice, "but you'll be a man now, of course. The boys will see fair play. Shall it be pistol or knife?"

If Big Jim's eyes hadn't been wide open we might have thought him a dead man. You never saw terror more plainly written on a human face.

"It's a little affair of our own, gentlemen, explained the stranger, as he turned to us. "I've traveled thousands of miles while looking for Big Jim. I've been hunting him down, to kill or be killed. This world isn't big enough for both of us. Arrange the details to suit the crowd."

Not one of us had spoken. Just as the stranger finished Big Jim recovered from his stupor and made a move for his pistol. Like a flash of lightning the little man had him covered, and then he laughed a harsh, dry laugh and said:

"I ought to shoot you down like a dog, but I'll give you a show. Come out doors. Shall it be this or that knife?"

Big Jim turned white again and relapsed into his former state of dumbness. The stranger surveyed him in disgust and contempt, and by and by turned to us and said:

"Back in the states this white-livered coward betrayed my confidence and wrecked my home and my life. Even his dead body would disgrace your diggings. Come, Jim!"

He stepped back and beckoned to Davis, who slowly followed, staring like one who walks in his sleep. The little man backed to the door—out of it into the moonlight, and then started up the trail. Davis followed like a dog, never looking to the right or to the left—making not the slightest move to draw his weapon. It was as if he had been mesmerized. Something of that same feeling was upon all the rest of us, for we stood at the door, speechless and amazed, and looked after the pair until they were out of sight. It was like a dream, and men rubbed their eyes as if heavy with sleep.

Up the hill—around the great black rock—past the tree on which we hung Taylor for murder, and then they were out of sight. The stranger we never saw again. A month later a prospector found Big Jim's skeleton in a ravine two miles away.—N. Y. Sun.

Fashionable Shoes.

With the exception of a few fine jet ornaments or a small buckle of Irish brilliants, all fancy decorations on dress shoes and slippers have nearly disappeared. Fine soft shoes of undressed kid, most easy and delightful to wear, are shown in many new shades to match the costume. The dove-gray and pale tan models find the largest sale. These tinted kid shoes do very well for a change or to complete a suit of one color entire, but for real elegance and neat and refined appearance there is no foot covering that can compare with a perfect-fitting shoe of fine black French kid. It suits all styles of dress, all occasions, and makes the foot look trimmer and much smaller than a shoe of any other description.—N. Y. Post.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

ATLANTIC COAST LINE.

W. W. R. R. & BRANCHES'

Condensed Schedule.

TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

DATED MAY 30TH, 1892.	No. 23, Daily.	No. 27, Fast mail Daily.	No. 41 daily ex Sun
	P. M.	P. M.	A. M.
Leave Weldon,	12 00	5 45	6 05
At Rocky Mount	1 40	6 56	7 09
At Tarboro	*2 18	.....	.....
Leave Tarboro,	12 58	6 00	
Arrive Wilson,	2 18	7 00	7 40
Leave Wilson	*2 30	.....	.....
Arrive Selma	3 20	.....	.....
Arrive Fayetteville,	5 00	.....	.....
Leave Goldsboro	3 15	7 40	8 20
Leave Warsaw	3 34	.....	9 00
Leave Magnolia	3 37	8 40	9 11
Arrive Wilmington	5 10	9 55	11 25

TRAINS GOING NORTH

	No. 14, Daily.	No. 78 daily.	No 40 daily ex Sunday
	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.
Leave Wilmington	12 45	9 15	4 20
Leave Magnolia	1 54	10 37	6 12
Leave Warsaw	.....	11 11	6 47
Arrive Goldsboro	2 35	12 05	7 10
Leave Fayetteville		*9 40	
Arrive Selma		11 08	
Arrive Wilson		12 10	
Leave Wilson	2 37	12 58	8 01
Arrive Rocky Mt.	4 07	1 50	8 59
Arrive Tarboro,	*5 30	*2 15	
Leave Tarboro,		12 58	
Arrive Weldon,	5 05	2 55	10 00

*Daily except Sunday.

Train on Scotland Neck Branch Road leaves Weldon at 4 00 p. m. Halifax 4 22, arrive Scotland Neck at 5 15 p. m. Greenville 6 32 p. m. Kinston 8 00 p. m. Returning leaves Kinston 7 10, a. m. Greenville 8 26 a. m. Arriving at Halifax 11 00, a. m., Weldon 11 25 a. m. daily except Sunday.

Local freight train leaves Weldon on Monday, Wednesdays and Friday at 10 15 a. m. arriving at Scotland Neck 1 00, a. m., Greenville 5 30 p. m., Kinston 7 40 p. m. Returning, leaves Kinston Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 7 20, a. m. arriving at Greenville 9 55, Scotland Neck 2 20 p. m. Weldon 5 15 p. m.

Train leaves Tarboro N. C., via Albemarle and Raleigh R. R. Daily except Sunday 4 40 p. m., Sunday 3 40 p. m., arrive Williamston N. C. 7 15 p. m., 4 20 p. m. Plymouth 8 00 p. m., 5 20 p. m. Returning leaves Plymouth daily except Sunday 6 20 a. m. Sunday 9 00 a. m. Williamston, N. C., 7 40 a. m. 9 58 a. m. arrive Tarboro 10 05 a. m. 11 30 a. m.

Trains on Southern division, Wilson and Fayetteville Branch leave Fayetteville 7 30 a. m., arrive at Bowland 12 15 p. m. Returning leave Bowland 12 15, p. m arrive at Fayetteville 5 15 p. m. Daily except Sunday.

Train on Midland N. C. Branch leaves Goldsboro N. C., daily except Sunday 6 00 a. m., arrive Smithfield, N. C., 7 20 a. m. Returning leaves Smithfield, N. C., 8 00 a. m., arrive Goldsboro, N. C., 9 30 p. m.

Train on Nashville Branch leaves Rocky Mount at 5 15 p. m., arrives at Nashville 5 55 p. m., Spring Hope 6 30 p. m. Returning leaves Spring Hope 8 00 a. m., Nashville 8 35 a. m. ar Rocky Mount 9 15 a. m. daily except Sunday.

Train on Clinton Branch leaves Warsaw for Clinton, daily except Sunday at 6 00 p. m. and 11 15 a. m. Returning leave Clinton at 8 20 a. m and 3 10 p. m., connecting at Warsaw with Nos 40, 41, 78 and 78.

Southbound train on Wilson and Fayetteville Branch is No. 51. Northbound is 50. *Daily except Sunday.

Trains No. 27 South, and 14 North will only stop at Rocky Mount, Wilson' Goldsboro and Magnolia.

Train No. 78 makes close connection at Weldon for all points North daily. All rail via Richmond and daily except Sunday via Bay Line, also at Rocky Mount daily with Norfolk and Carolina Railroad for Norfolk and all points North via Norfolk.

Trains makes close connection for all points North via Richmond and Washington.

All trains run solid between Wilmington and Washington and have Pullman Palace Sleepers attached.

J. R. KENLY, Sup't Trans — J. F. DIVINE, General Sup't

T. M. EMERSON, Gen'l Passenger Agent.

ATLANTIC COAST LINE.

PETERSBURG & WELDON R. R

Condensed Schedule.

TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

Dated May 31st, 1892.	No. 23 Daily.	No. 27 Daily.
Leave Petersburg,	10.08 am	3.43 p m
Leave Stony Creek,	10.50 am	4.18 p m
Leave Jarratts,	11.11 am	
Leave Belfield,	11.30 am	4.48 p m
Arrive Weldon,	12.10 pm	5.23 p m

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

	No. 14 Daily.	No. 78 Daily.
Leave Weldon,	5.10 a.m.	3.15 p. m
Le Belfield,	5.44 a.m.	3.52 p. m
Le Jarratts,	6.00 a.m.	4.09 p. m
Le Stony Creek,	6.15 a.m.	4.33 p. m
Arrive Petersburg,	6.50 a.m.	5.12 p. m

All trains run solid Weldon to Washington.

E. T. D. MYERS, Gen'l Superintendent. — T. M. EMERSON, Gen. Passenger agt

TO THE PATRONS

—OF THE—

ALBEMARLE STEAM NAVIGATION CO

QUICK TIME Between NORFOLK and EASTERN N. CAROLIN

On and after Monday, December 17th, and until further notice, the Steamer CHOWAN, Captain Withy, will

LEAVE FRANKLIN on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for EDENTON, PLYMOUTH and all intermediate points on arrival of mail train from Portsmouth, say 10:15 A. M.

RETURNING the "Chowan" will reach Franklin on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 9:15 A. M., in time to connect with Fast Mail train from Raleigh to Portsmouth and with Express train for the South.

Passengers, by this arrangement, taking the Steamer Chowan at any point on the river, will

REACH NORFOLK by 11 oclock A. M., and thus have the entire day for the transaction of business in that city.

GIVE THIS ROUTE A TRIAL.

Respectfully,

J. H. BOGART, Supt

Franklin Va., Dec. 15 1889.